



## Robert White

July 7, 1940 - May 14, 2021

Robert White, 80, passed away on Friday, May 14, 2021, at Staten Island University Hospital North.

Born Sunday, July 7, 1940 in Brooklyn, New York, he was the son of the late James White and Frances McIlwee White.

Bob was a NYC Transit Police Sergeant for 25 years. He was an avid outdoorsman, going fishing, hiking or biking every chance he got, bringing one or more of his children with him. He cycled from Brooklyn New York to Nova Scotia, participated in two Outward Bound expeditions. He was active in Scouting, introducing many inner city youth from his old neighborhood in Brooklyn to nature. He climbed many of the highest peaks in New York State, hiked significant portions of the Appalachian Trail, in New York, New Jersey, and Virginia.

He had a lifetime of service. In addition to his Transit Police service, he served honorably first in the United States Navy and then with the United States Army Reserve.

In retirement, he cruised all over the Caribbean, Bermuda, and many other places. Always with his beloved wife Arlene.

He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Arlene, his son Robert, daughters Kim, and Kelly, and his siblings, Leatha and Charles. He also delighted in his Grandchildren; Alexa, Tommy, James, Kristina, John, Lauren and Colleen .

The family will receive friends from 2:00 - 5:00 and 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 20, 2021, at the John Vincent Scalia Home for Funerals, Inc., 28 Eltingville Blvd, Staten Island, New York.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, May 21, 2021 at St Clare Church located at 110 Nelson Ave Staten Island, New York 10308. Cremation will be private.

# Cemetery

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## Rosehill Crematory

792 E Edgar Rd  
Linden, NJ, 07036

# Events

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**MAY** **Visitation** 02:00AM - 05:00PM

**20**

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John Vincent Scalia Home for Funerals, Inc.  
28 Eltingville Blvd, Staten Island, NY, US, 10312

**MAY** **Visitation** 07:00PM - 09:00PM

**20**

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John Vincent Scalia Home for Funerals, Inc.  
28 Eltingville Blvd, Staten Island, NY, US, 10312

**MAY** **Service** 10:00AM

**21**

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St Clare Church  
110 Nelson Ave, Staten Island, NY, US, 10308

# Comments

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“Death, thou comest when we had thee least in mind.”

My heart sunk when I heard of Bob's passing. Such a dear friend who I had the good fortune of working with at the very start of my career, as a trainee, in the O/U and again, near the end, in the Criminal Intelligence Section, where we were both sergeants. In those early days, Bob shepherded me with the careful guidance of a kind uncle and I still fondly recall those side-splitting “Yah Ta Hay” stories he regaled us with in the radio room.

As a Boy Scout Leader in those days, he enlisted me to help in driving a very large group of scouts to the Fulton Chain of Lakes in the Adirondacks for a week-long traverse of the eight lakes, where they would travel in a flotilla of canoes. We drove in a caravan of about five or six cars up the NYS Thruway and used walkie-talkies to stay in contact (pre-cell phone days!); Bob being Bob, there were frequent jovial “morale-boosting” transmissions from Car 1, the lead car where Bob was “riding herd.” I brought up the rear and admit I was occasionally tempted to slow down to be out of range of those “Good Morning Vietnam” DJ-style communiques. Through the rear view mirror, I spied a couple of scouts in the backseat covering their ears.

I'll never forget Bob's enthusiastic recounting of his well-planned bicycle trip with his son across Canada one summer, accomplished with periodic rides on freight/passenger trains along wilderness rail lines. Bob's eyes shone with love as he relived those precious days with his child on that priceless father-son bonding trip.

I did manage to attend Bob's retirement party in downtown Brooklyn where we had a good turnout, a good time and subjected him to a well-done roast. Bob spent many, many happy hours in the Adirondacks, and spent many more sharing his tales—some tall—with anyone he could corner. I shared Bob's love of that “forever wild” wilderness, bequeathed to us by former Governor of New York Theodore Roosevelt, also a lover of that region, in his prescient wisdom. (Then Vice President Roosevelt was hiking up Mt. Marcy with his hiking party when a runner came up the trail and informed him that President McKinley had been shot. Unbeknownst to anyone at that moment, McKinley had already expired and therefore that spot halfway up the mountain is where he officially became president. A small granite marker marks that spot to this day.)

Bob loved the Adirondacks—and all of nature—and I recall Bob telling me one time that, “when it is time, and not before it's time, I plan to have my cremated ashes sprinkled from a plane over the High Peaks of the Adirondack Mountains, so I can be close to God for eternity.” I sincerely hope Bob got that last wish. And on each future visit to those ancient rocks, more than 1,000 million years old, I plan to share a few words with my old friend. Maybe, just maybe, I'll hear his whisper in the pines.

“We're all just walking each other home.” Richard Alpert (Ram Dass)

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“ To Kim & family, Very sorry for your loss and your in my prayers! May He Rest In Peace!



**Greg silvestro** - May 16, 2021 at 08:06 PM

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“ Love, The Extended Morrow Aunts, Uncles, & Cousins purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Robert White.



**Love, The Extended Morrow Aunts, Uncles, & Cousins** - May 16, 2021 at 07:06 PM

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“ I am truly sorry Bob & I were fishing and hunting buddies for many years. We would frequently stop at Bob's favorite gin mill on Atlantic ave in Brooklyn after a 4x12 tour just to unwind & have a few beers & a lot of laughs. He always had some tales to tell & he enjoyed this particular bar cause it's where the upstate Indian steelworkers hung out. I am so sorry I did not try harder to keep in touch. I do cherish our youthful memories & know that God will bless this good man as he enter the pearly gates. May God bless you all. Bob Donnelly.

**Robert Donnelly** - May 16, 2021 at 03:26 PM

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“ Letha,Arthur and family . purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Robert White.



Letha,Arthur and family . - May 16, 2021 at 01:04 PM

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“ I was assigned to restricted duty for extended periods twice and had the good fortune to work for one of the kindest gentlemen I ever met. Bob White was the SGT in charge of the Criminal Investigation Service for the Transit police Department. I also spent some time with him in the Army Reserves. When you worked for Bob, you did all you could out of loyalty for a fair boss that inspired you and promoted teamwork. I am saddened by his loss and so will anyone he touched. He touched many. My heart and condolences go out to the White family. He will be forever missed by me.

Bill Hall - May 16, 2021 at 12:33 PM



“ I will pray for Bob & his Family. What a great guy. I worked with Bob in the TPD operations unit (O U) for a short time & we quickly became fishing and hunting buddies. We had quite a few laughs & let's just say a couple of beers together. This news struck hard & I will cherish the fun times we had. God Bless. Bob Donnelly

bob donnelly - May 16, 2021 at 12:54 PM



“ Sergeant Bob White - gentleman.

Tony Johnson - May 20, 2021 at 04:19 PM

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“ Arlene and family. I am very sorry to hear of Bob's passing. May he "Rest in Peace"

Louis Hollander - May 15, 2021 at 06:44 PM